

subject to approvals. This limit has been raised from 30% to 40% in the Budget 2000-01.

19. Under the Employee Stock Option Scheme, income tax payable on income from GDRs purchased in foreign currency by a resident employee of IT software and service companies, shall be at a concessional rate of 10%.
20. To induce more investment for R&D activities, a weighted deduction of 125% on the sums paid to any university, college or an institution or a Scientific research association for the purposes of scientific, social or statistical research has been provided.
21. Information Technology Act, 2000 has been enacted. This act deals with Cyber Security, Cyber Crime and other information security related legal aspects. This will encourage expansion of e-commerce through internet.
22. STPI has set up a business support centre in the USA, which is operational since November, 1999, to promote business for STP units and provide marketing support to SMEs.

Anti-India propaganda on Cyber space sites

†4474. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan and other anti-India people have filled absurd talks in more than five hundred cyber space sites to use them as a propaganda against India;

(b) if so, whether National Cyber Crime Committee has drawn Government's attention thereto;

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(c) if so, the number of such groups identified so far by Government and the details thereof; and

(d) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) The Government is aware that Pakistan and other anti-India people are using WEB sites as medium for propaganda against India.

Internet is a conglomeration of networks having presence in over 200 countries. Hence it is difficult to exactly identify the location of a particular group, involved in such activities. However, from the messages of the sites, and from international reports, it has been identified that groups such as GFORCE Pakistan and Pakistan Hackerz Club (PHC) may have been involved.

The Information Technology Act, 2000 has adequate provisions under para nos. 65 and 66 of Chapter XI to deal with cyber crimes such as hacking and tampering with computer source documents.

The Government has issued the security guidelines for individual/internet users in the Ministries/Departments of the Government. The Schedule II of the Rules of IT Act, 2000 also includes IT Security guidelines.

FDI in information sector

4475. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved some Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals in the information sector;

(b) if so, the amount of FDI involved in those proposals; and

(c) what are the details of the FDI proposals approved upto the 31st March, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.